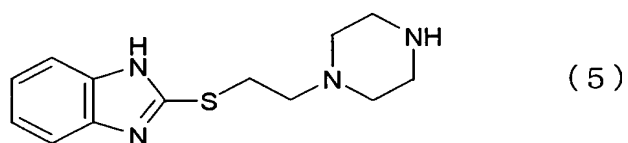


What is claimed is:

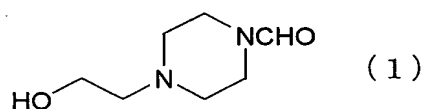
1. A method for producing  
1-[2-(benzimidazol-2-ylthio)ethyl]piperadine represented by  
the following formula (5):



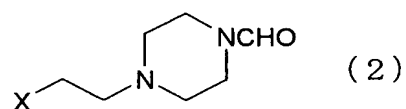
or its salt,

comprising the steps of:

converting hydroxyl group in 1-formyl-4-(2-hydroxyethyl)  
piperazine represented by the following formula (1):



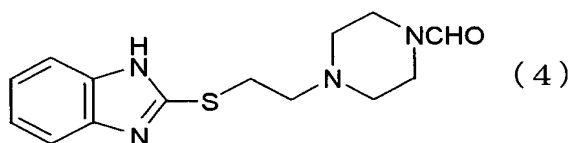
to a leaving group to produce a compound represented by the  
following formula (2):



wherein X represents a leaving group;

reacting this compound with 2-mercaptobenzimidazole (3)  
to produce

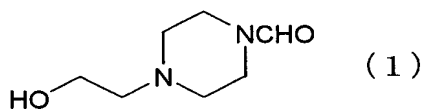
1-[2-(benzimidazol-2-ylthio)ethyl]-4-formylpiperazine  
represented by the following formula (4):



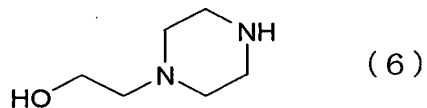
and

removing the formyl group therefrom.

2. The method according to claim 1 wherein the  
1-formyl-4-(2-hydroxyethyl) piperazine represented by the  
following formula (1):



is produced by converting amino group of 1-(2-hydroxyethyl)  
piperazine represented by the following formula (6)



to formyl group.